

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /075 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 240287

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MX

SUBJECT: MEETING OF CARIBBEAN NATIONS

REFERENCE: MEXICO 16611

1. WE ARE MAKING SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS AS YOU ARE AWARE
FROM SERIES OF CABLE INFO TO YOU ON DELICATE OPERATION
OF PUTTING TOGETHER CONSULTATIVE GROUP FOR CARIBBEAN
HEADED BY IBRD. AS PART THIS EXERCISE WE ENVISION A
CONFERENCE ON CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT PROBLEMS TO BE HELD
IN EARLY DECEMBER AT WHICH CONSULTATIVE GROUP WILL BE
APPROVED. WE EXPECT SPEECH OF MRS. CARTER IN PUERTO RICO
NEXT WEEK TO GIVE OUTLINE OUR THINKING.

2. WE WOULD EXPECT AND WELCOME MEXICAN PARTICIPATION
IN SUCH GROUP BUT SEE MEXICO IN DONOR ROLE NOT RECIPIENT.
WE RECOGNIZE THAT MEXICO WOULD PROBABLY NOT BE ABLE MAKE
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SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION AT LEAST FOR SOME TIME
SO ITS PARTICIPATION LIKE THAT SUCH COUNTRIES AS COSTA
RICA AND COLOMBIA WOULD BE MORE MATTER OF GIVING MORAL
SUPPORT AND AVOIDING GROUP BEING OVERLY DIVIDED INTO
DONOR AND RECIPIENT GROUPS.

3. GIVEN ROLE ENVISIONED FOR MEXICO IT IS IMPORTANT

AND URGENT TO DISCOURAGE MEXICAN INITIATED MEETING. WE
LEAN TOWARD DECEMBER CONFERENCE BEING HELD AT WORLD BANK
HEADQUARTERS. ALTERNATIVES MIGHT BE RECIPIENT COUNTRY
BUT NOT MEXICO.

4. OVER LONGER TERM FUTURE WE WOULD HOPE ALL CARIBBEAN
BASIN COUNTRIES WOULD INTENSIFY COOPERATION. BUT WE
BELIEVE FIRST STEP MUST BE ENHANCED COOPERATION AMONG
CARICOM COUNTRIES, HAITI, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC AND SURINAM.
WE WOULD HOPE MEXICO WOULD TAKE LOW POSTURE WHILE THIS
DELICATE INITIATIVE GETS UNDERWAY HOLDING THEIR INITIATIVE
UNTIL ISLAND COUNTRIES HAVE GAINED SUFFICIENT CONFIDENCE
IN COOPERATING AMONG THEMSELVES TO PERMIT BROADER EFFORT.
CHRISTOPHER

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